

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OGEN, AS, NZ, PP, FJ

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT - AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, PACIFIC
ISLANDS

1. ARTHUR BURNS TO VISIT AUSTRALIA - FORMER RESERVE
CHAIRMAN ARTHUR BURNS WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA APRIL 23-
28. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP IS TO ADDRESS THE
YOUNG PRESIDENT'S ORGANIZATION MEETING IN SYDNEY APRIL 26,
BUT HE WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS VISIT TO MEET WITH
VARIOUS OFFICIALS. HE HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN
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ARRANGING MEETINGS WITH PM FRASER, TREASURER HOWARD AND
THE GOVERNOR OF THE RESERVE BANK. PRIOR TO HIS AUSTRALIAN
TRIP HE WILL BE IN JAPAN. (UNCLASSIFIED)

2. AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL COUNSELOR REASSIGNED - DENNIS
ARGALL, POLITICAL COUNSELOR AT THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
HAS-ACCEPTED AN APPOINTMENT AS SENIOR ADVISOR TO LIONEL

BOWEN, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY. HE WILL LEAVE WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK. ARGALL IS ONE OF THE MOST CAPABLE AND TALENTED OFFICERS IN THE AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN SERVICE. IN HIS NEW POSITION HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO EXERCISE CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE OVER LABOR'S FOREIGN POLICY. (CONFIDENTIAL)

3. NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENTARIANS BIRCH AND BRILL - ED HURWITZ MET NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENTARIANS BIRCH AND BRILL AT A DINNER ON MARCH 11 GIVEN BY NZ CHARGE BARBARA ANGUS. BOTH LEGISLATORS WERE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE PROSPECT OF THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL TRIP TO WELLINGTON. THEY EXUDED GLOOM OVER NEW ZEALAND'S ECONOMIC TROUBLE.

4. THE WHITES LEAVE WASHINGTON - ED HURWITZ AND BILL GALLAGHER SAW OFF NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR AND MRS. WHITE MARCH 11 AT DULLES AIRPORT. AFTER 5-1/2 YEARS IN WASHINGTON, THE WHITES ARE RETURNING TO NEW ZEALAND AND RETIREMENT.

5. AMBASSADOR CONDON SWORN IN - JOHN P. CONDON WAS SWORN IN BY UNDERSECRETARY HABIB ON MARCH 10 AS OUR FIRST RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO FIJI. THE CONDONS DEPARTED WASHINGTON MARCH 13 AND ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN SUVA APRIL 9. VANCE
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